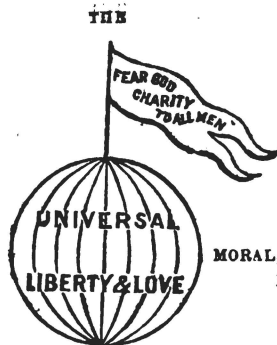


COMMUNITY'S

Or, Standard

A PERIODICAL DEVOTED TO THE POLITICAL.
CONDITIONS OF MEN; CONTAINING
AND DOMESTIC



JOURNAL;

Of Truth.

MORAL, SPIRITUAL, RELIGIOUS, AND PHYSICAL
HISTORY, SCIENCE, ARTS, FOREIGN
INTELLIGENCE, ETC.

PART 3.—VOL. 1]

For the week ending Saturday, July 4th, 1857.

[PRICE 1D.]

A NEW HISTORICAL TALE.

THE HUT ON THE HEATH;

OR,

THE OUTLAWED GANG OF THE DEVIL'S DITCH AND THE HERDSMAN'S DAUGHTER.

CHAPTER I.

The late Stage.—Its attack discovered.

Though dark and stormy is the wintry night,
The robbers shrink not from their fiendish tasks;
But hasten to the deeds of their delight,
Disguised, their faces all concealed with masks.

It was a cold stormy night in the month of December, about the beginning of the sixteenth century, from which date our story opens, and the place was an old-fashioned Inn, which has long since disappeared, the spot on which it stood being now covered with lofty and spacious buildings, situate near the main road leading through what is now called the fore or main street of Newmarket, which town stands on the borders of two counties, viz., Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. The Inn alluded to, stood in the latter county, and was, at the time of which we are writing, the principal Inn of this now popular town, which contains at the present time more public-houses than it contained habitations altogether at that remote period. The sign of the Inn alluded to, was the "Three Old Brewers," and was a very capacious building, having large accommodations for travellers, with much stabling adjoining, and the proprietor employed a number of postillions, as the house was a posting house on a large scale, and he was reputed for keeping the best post horses and chaise which could be found at any Inn on the road between London and Norwich. Newmarket being about half way between the two former places, and was known to the post-boys as the half-way house. For some time prior to the day on which our narrative opens, the weather had been extremely cold and clear; a hard frost was upon the ground, and all out door labour had been laid aside. But, about the middle of the afternoon on the day in question, the atmosphere became cloudy and gloomy, the wind blew high and keen from the north-east, and the clouds thickened until, by four o'clock in the afternoon, it was as dark as midnight; and no sooner had the darkness set in, than large flakes of snow began to fall. The wind continued to howl amidst the buildings, and roar

with fury amongst the lofty but leafless trees; and, as the darkness still prevailed, every appearance exhibited an aspect of a stormy wintry night of unusual severity, and few persons, except those whom necessity compelled, attempted to leave their houses on such a night. In fact, the little town of Newmarket, with but few exceptions, showed no symptoms of being inhabited by human beings, for every door, window, and crevice had been closed, or bluffed, for the purpose of shutting out the storm, and no light was visible only that which gleamed dimly but fantastically through the diamond-lead window of the tap of the Three Old Brewers, in which, notwithstanding the violence of the storm, the voices of several persons might be heard discoursing with great hilarity, as some were singing snatches of old ditties amidst the jokes and mirth of all, which seemed to mingle indiscriminately without sense or meaning. On looking into the tap-room, a large fire of logs was burning, which snapped and crackled, shedding its congenial influence all around, until the atmosphere of the room contrasted widely with the cold piercing blast without. Its occupants were persons of a peculiar description, attired chiefly in the costume of postillions, or stable-men, of all ages and sizes, from sixteen years and upwards, and from four feet to five feet eight in height, and who appeared to be enjoying themselves without restraint. There were a few other individuals in the room, who did not mingle with the post-lads as they were called, or did not appear to be persons of any importance, looking chiefly like agricultural labourers. At this juncture, the sound of a horse and wheels were heard upon the stones outside, and one of the stable-men started up and, looking at the clock, said, "This cannot be the stage, it is only half-past eight, and it is not due till nine;" and hurrying to the door, he just emerged to the yard as the driver of the vehicle was calling for the ostler, and where he discovered that it was only a single horse and gig, with a gentleman who was on his way to the next village, and who merely had called for refreshment. As soon as the ostler had taken charge of the horse and vehicle he entered the house, and addressing the landlord, with whom he was familiar, said, "I am very glad, Mr. Symonds," which was the name of the landlord, "that I crossed the heath so early to-night." "Why?" said Mr. S. "Because," said the stranger, "I had a terrible foreboding that, if I did not, something serious would happen to me; and as soon almost as I had passed the Devil's Ditch, and entered on the thickest part of the heath, three rough looking fellows emerged from amongst the furze, but, the snow

being pretty thick upon the road, I was closer upon them than they expected, and before they could get over the rails into the road I, with quick instinct, pushed on my horse at full speed, and though they shouted lustily that I should stop, I heeded them not, and soon placed a good distance between us, though I momentarily expected to be fired at, until I fancied myself at a safe distance, when I slackened my speed; and as the horse has galloped nearly three miles, I must remain here a couple of hours, so that another quarter of an hour's run, or less, will take me safe the other two miles and a-half," this being the distance to his own home.

Mr. Symonds, the landlord, was a short, fat, red-faced, jolly looking man, about forty-five years of age, and was of blustering habits, but who was generally liked by his domestics and all who frequented his house, on account of his jovial, merry, and good tempered disposition. He listened to the traveller's statement with a degree of curiosity and anxiety seldom manifested by him on any occasion, and at length said, in the broad dialect of his country, "I wonder them ere chaps from Lunnun, called runners, from Bow-street, don't come down and drive them tarnation ruffians out o' the heath, and the Devil's Ditch too." "If any of the London authorities knew that there was such a gang in existence," said the stranger, "they would soon have them routed or arrested." "Poh! nonsense man, I have sent 'em word scores o' times by the coachman and the guard too, and not an officer as ever comed yet, as I have heard of." "The coachman or guard would have little notice taken of them," said the gentleman, "unless they took official documents with them from the local authorities, and then the matter would soon be attended to." "Then I'll see the squire about it, myself, to-morrow," said the host, "and tell him all you have said, and he'll soon have the Heath cleared, and every one of the robbers hung." Here their conversation was interrupted by the entrance of other persons, and shortly after the stranger finished his brandy and water, and under the influence of the fire, gave way to sleep in the easy chair.

It was now a little past nine o'clock, and in defiance of the piercing cold and the howling storm, three men could be seen, one of them holding a large stable lantern, with a light in it, under the tails of his coat, to shade it from the wind, while the others stood cringing close to the wall. It was the ostler and his two assistants, who were expecting the arrival of the nine o'clock coach. "I wonder what's keeping her, Bob," said one of them, addressing the one who held the lantern, "she has never been so late as this before." "I s'pose it's the snow," said Bob, the individual thus addressed, "and the horses can't make headway, but I should think they will be here soon." Again he stepped into the road, looking in the direction of the Heath, but no sound met his ear except the howling of the storm as it swept across hill and dale with the greatest fury, and the snow was already several inches thick upon the ground. Anxiously they watched and listened, but no coach arrived. Ten o'clock came, but still no coach, and excitement was getting to the highest pitch, as several persons had collected at the Inn, as was the usual custom, anxious to hear the latest news from London, or to meet their friends. Various were the conjectures which

passed as to the cause of the delay, and the landlord told them of the adventure of the gentleman with the horse and gig, who had just been aroused, and who confirmed the landlord's statement; but in spite of all entreaties to stay for the night, he drove off amidst the murmurs of the few shivering spectators who had collected. At this moment a shadowy form was seen rapidly approaching down the white road, but the snow being thick, no sound could be heard only that like the clink of chains or buckles. Coming nearer, it was perceived to be a horseman at full gallop, and the horse, as if by instinct, turned suddenly towards the Inn, panting and steaming with the heat, showing every symptom of having been hard pressed. As soon as he entered the yard he halted, and the rider dismounted, shouting as he did so, "Where is the landlord? Where is the ostler? Where is the landlord? Where is anybody? Why don't they come?" "What's the matter my good fellow?" said Bob, the individual who held the lantern, eyeing the new comer somewhat curiously, for he appeared a perfect stranger to the stable-man. His shouts brought several persons to the Inn door, who had heard him calling for the landlord, while seated inside, and many interrogations were put to him at one and the same time, none of which he answered; but, rushing into the house, he dropped upon the first seat he came to, and exhibited all the appearance of a person suffering from fright. As soon as he recovered himself, sufficient to be enabled to speak again, he said, in a somewhat tremulous voice, looking fearfully around as he spoke, "Oh dear, oh dear! the coach stopped, upset and broken, horses run away, passengers robbed, coachman murdered, and I have come here; Oh dear, I wish I had never went to London." The landlord, who had confronted him, with the other persons, gazed inquiringly upon the stranger, as he gave utterance to these somewhat curious but singular expressions; at the conclusion of which, the landlord laughed heartily, and turning to the other persons, said, "Well, this is as rum a job as ever I heard tell of—the coach broken, passengers robbed, coachman murdered, horses run away, and you comed here;" and turning to the stranger, saying, as he did so, "Was you on the coach?" "Yes!" said the new comer, "I seed 'em stop it, and let loose the horses; then I slip'd off and run and cotched this ere hos what I brought, and com'd here; but I heard guns a firing and folks a shouting, and I expect they're all killed." At the conclusion of this sentence, notwithstanding his frightened appearance, another burst of laughter burst forth from the group assembled around him; and, at this moment, the individual called Bob, before alluded to, and who was the head ostler of the Three Old Brewers, entered with a lantern, saying as he did so, "Its all right, master, the horse this fellow has brought is one of the leaders of the Norwich coach, and she's only got half traces." But before any reply could be made to his remarks, a noise was heard in the covered passage, or entrance to the yard, and the next moment several individuals entered, leading the other three horses, one of which had the dead body of a man thrown across his back. It stopped in front of the Inn door, and the persons which accompanied it were about to remove it into the house, but the landlady of the inn, having seen their object through

the open door, objected to having the body in the house. Mr. Symonds ordered it to be conveyed to the stable.

During the whole of this time the storm continued to rage with unabated fury, and notwithstanding the severity of the night, the news spread rapidly through the quiet little town of Newmarket, and a number of persons were soon collected around the gate and doorway of the Three Old Brewers. Amongst them were two constables, who constituted the whole of the civil force then existing in the town of Newmarket; the principal of which was a Mr. Howard, his assistant, one H. Jeffery. As soon as these two worthies saw the body of the dead man they, with much bustle and official authority, collected about a dozen men, who, with stable forks, sticks, or anything which would serve as weapons, set out, headed by the constables, in search of the absent stage, across the Heath in the direction of the Devil's Ditch, swearing vengeance against The Outlawed Gang.

CHAPTER II.

The Outlawed Gang of the Devil's Ditch.

The Devil's Ditch, a work of human art,
Of ancient days a lesson now impart;
Its chalky heights afar off may be seen,
Enriched by firs, whose foliage bright and green,
Adorns the landscape with their spiral shape,
Yet serve as haunts where ruffians oft escape

The Devil's Ditch is one of the ancient relics of defence which was erected during the early struggles of the rebellions mentioned in English history. Its origin we are not perfectly acquainted with, nor does it in any way concern our present historical narrative, but that it really exists can be proved by all persons who have ever travelled the great road leading from London to Norwich. The Devil's Ditch is situated in the county of Cambridge, and runs parallel from a south-easterly direction to the north-west, a distance of some thirteen miles, leading from the village of Stetchworth to the town of Reach, across an immense heath, which, up to a very recent period, was covered with almost impenetrable furze and enormous thorns. The Ditch itself is about three miles distant from Newmarket, across which there are three public roads; the central, or main turnpike road, from London, through Newmarket, to Norwich; the one on the left, from Newmarket to Cambridge; and the one on the right, from Newmarket through the villages of Stetchworth, Dullingham, and other rural districts. At those parts where the roads cross the Ditch, on each side there are immense plantations, consisting of the Scotch, Larch, and other firs, between which there is much of the heath-furze interspersed, which serves as an excellent cover for game of every description; and in many places the top of the embankment is likewise overruu with the same species of vegetation, and which, in many places, is still standing and bears testimony to the facts here related. The heath, across which the ditch runs, is very extensive, and, within a very few years, has served as a grazing ground and shelter for all kinds of game and cattle; and, in all the village round within ten miles, there are traditionary accounts of the many robberies, murders, and other deeds of darkness which were said to have

been committed in the neighbourhood of the Devil's Ditch. Its locality is looked upon by the rustics with superstitious reverence and fear, as every particular spot has its own legend; and at the time of which we are writing the locality of the Devil's Ditch had been for some time infested with a band of lawless ruffians, whose depredations and daring were a terror to the surrounding districts.

At that part of the Ditch which lies between the London and Dullingham road, there was but little vegetation; and, even to this day, the Ditch and its lofty embankments retain a state of perfection and originality scarcely credible considering its ancient origin; and that part of the heath between it and Newmarket was till very recently, densely covered with furze and thorns. But the Ditch, and its embankments on the other side of the Dullingham road, were literally covered with fir trees, which might be seen for many miles. So, likewise, on the opposite side of the London road, about a mile from which was the haunt or place of rendezvous of the lawless band whom we are now about to describe; and history asserts that in no part of England, in ancient days, when highwaymen were in their prosperity, were there more depredations committed than in the neighbourhood of the Devil's Ditch and the heath of Newmarket. At a very secluded spot, about a mile from the road, shaded by immense fir trees and thorns, which were so clustered as to make it appear impenetrable, and where the embankment appeared much higher than at any other place, at intervals columns of smoke might have been seen ascending above the trees; and, though a stranger unacquainted with the locality would have found a difficulty in threading his way through the thorns and furze, yet it was well known that some persons had taken up their abode there; but so superstitious were the people on account of the name which the place bore, that no one would deem it prudent to explore or search for the supposed habitation.

[To be continued in our next.]

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Napoleon's Visit to Manchester.—A Paris letter says, "The Emperor will remain fourteen days at Plombières in strict retirement. He will take with him some tents for *al fresco* expeditions into the mountains. The Emperor has signified to the Queen his desire to visit the Manchester Exhibition. The intimation was followed by an immediate and pressing invitation, which has been accepted, and, according to present arrangements, the Emperor and Empress will visit the Queen at Windsor, from there will accompany the Queen to Manchester."

King Bomba.—A letter from Naples has the following: "The difficulty which the Austrian cabinet has had to contend with regarding King Ferdinand, arises in the education which Austria has herself applied to his Sicilian Majesty. From 1848 up to a very late date, Austria advocated political persecution; and I learnt from the very highest authority, in a despatch before me, that the King loudly protests against the late Austrian amnesties, whilst M. Cafara, the minister of Fe-

reign Affairs, has refused to insert these conciliatory political acts of Francis Joseph's clemency in the Neapolitan official journal. The King is reported to have said: 'Austria has not changed her policy, but she wants to make me, like herself, appear to do so. I shall not play such a comedy to please a boy,' (meaning the Emperor of Austria) 'or to satisfy a brigand,' (referring to the Emperor of the French) 'or to please Lord Palmerston, a ———' (which qualification I cannot write, since it is a dirty lazzaroni word not fit for publication)."

A Vessel run down in the Channel.—The Steamer "Queen of the South," arrived on Monday at Southampton from Bremen, on her way to New York. She ran down the Brig "Atalanta," of Southampton, in the channel on Monday night. The "Atalanta" sunk. All hands on board of her were saved with the exception of one boy, who was drowned. The "Queen of the South" sustained no damage.

America.—Col. Cummings, by the last news, was about to receive his commission from the President as governor of the Mormon territory. General Harvey was moving his troops across the plains to support the governor in taking his new office, should it be necessary. The New York Herald believes the Mormons will give them no serious trouble. It says, "If Governor Cummings goes there with a proper spirit, to meddle in nothing that is none of his business, but to do everything that appertains to him to do under the law and the constitution—he will find no resistance to his authority. The Federal Government has nothing to do with the religious creeds of men, nor whether they choose one form of social organization or another. But it has to see that life and property are safe, no matter what a man's belief may be, or how many wives he has."

We feel inclined to differ with the opinions of the New York Herald, for we have good reason to believe from recently published assertions, that the people of the United States generally, are already disgusted with atrocities practised upon females of tender years under the cloak of the Mormon creed. For scarcely a week passes without some disgraceful occurrences oozing out from the Mormon territory, notwithstanding the sworn secrecy of the Mormons themselves, and the exertions used to prevent their disgraceful proceedings from getting publicly abroad.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

BIOGRAPHY OF MAN BEYOND THE GRAVE.

To the Editor of the Community's Journal.

Sir,—In your last issue I intimated that I would lay before the public some astounding facts on the biography of man beyond the grave. I, therefore, through the medium of your columns, give the following specimen of a series of revelations from a work entitled the "Warning Message." But, as space is limited, I shall omit the introductory passages, with the names of the individuals whose assertions they are purported to be, and refer your readers to the work in question for further particulars,

where they may read assertions which, if not fully believed, will impress them with feelings of anxiety and curiosity, as every deep-thinking and penetrating mind cannot fail to conceive the possibility and even the probability of the truths contained therein. I myself, from experience, have good reasons to fully acknowledge the truth of each and every assertion, as they confirm the words of scripture in their pure state, which declare "That all men shall suffer according to the deeds done in the flesh; but that all shall, through the sacrifice of the Saviour, eventually reach eternal rest;" and thus abolish the disgraceful and degrading idea of eternal punishment. But of this I will leave your readers to judge, and merely insert an extract of the spiritual revelation, in which the experience of the pangs of death, the flight of the spirit, and experience in immortality, are beautifully displayed.

At the head of the chapter in which the following revelation is given, the spirit, before giving his experience, revealed the following lines:

Good truthful knowledge all mankind should have,
On mysteries which are now beyond the grave,
That they may fear the Lord while on the earth,
And thus decrease their sufferings after death."

After these lines the spirit next gave his name, age, and date of death, after which, he related to the seer the following extraordinary assertions.—

"I am now commanded to describe the sensation I experienced while leaving the tenement of clay which I inhabited. While lying upon my bed, supported by pillows of down, surrounded by every worldly comfort and luxury, with friends and relations weeping over my aged and shrivelled form, watching with the most intense and expressive anxiety, as each breath of vitality escaped through my parched lips, until at length, by the convulsion of each successive fit, the difficulty of breathing increased, and my limbs gradually became paralysed and benumbed with a terrible sensation of a knowledge that death was at hand. I made an effort to speak, but the power of articulation had left me, and my limbs lay motionless and unable to obey the dictates of my will, although I felt that even raising a hand would abate the sensation. At length the appearance of the apartment darkened, and all, for a few moments, appeared wrapt in gloom. The same moment, a terrible sensation of cold, chilly, death-like agony seized my frame, while my heart appeared as a cold heavy stone, or icy substance, the weight of which forbade the office of its functions from being performed; and a dreadful noise, as if many waters were dashing furiously upon the rocks, filled my ears, and I made efforts to raise my head, but in vain. At that moment a sudden thrill of indescribable pain ran through my whole frame, my limbs set as with cramp, with an explosive sensation within my breast, and all was then still and tranquil, and my eyes again, as it were, opened, and I perceived the nearest friends bending over me, while tears bedewed their cheeks, and heard them articulate in stifled whispers the ominous words—He is dead. I appeared to smile at the assertion, for no pain was upon me, and I felt at ease, gazing upon them with astonishment and wonder, and made an effort to assure them of the contrary, but

could not stir. At this moment, I appeared as if enabled to see in every direction, and felt as though in a dream, going from place to place without my body stirring, and knowing that it remained in the same position. I then felt myself seized by the shoulders, torn away through the apartment, which opened before me as if in a dream, was borne through the air, and could perceive trees, fields, hedges, waters, towns, villages, and hamlets, which had the effect of bewildering my imagination, till at length I found myself in total darkness, beyond the sound and reach of human ears or gaze, and then for the first time discovered the reality of my position. Here I could distinctly hear a complication of sounds of an appalling description, mingled together in the most distracting discord—music, singing, howling, screaming, with the most frightful yells of fear and alarm, which made me think of the reality of a hell. But I did not remain long in this state, but was shortly on my way back to the place where I had left my body, and which I knew was dead. I found my friends had left it cold, and stretched to the full length. I gazed upon it with horror and amazement, and knew that it was myself; and then mingled thoughts of the world and my past life flashed before me. I endeavoured to persuade myself that my experience was a dream, and wondered at the agility with which I moved from place to place, weak and feeble as I had been, but there was the stern reality before me, cold, motionless and stiff. I endeavoured with my will to uncontract the limbs, to raise the head or the hand, but in vain. Still I knew it was my body, and my will had exercised its power over its functions, which performed their office as I desired, but the effort was useless. I knelt by it, looked upon it with horror, felt of myself, and exclaimed, 'Are we separate beings, or what does this mean?' Again the thoughts of the words 'He is dead,' recalled to my memory my exact position, and I knew I was only, as it were, the shadow of the reality, and wondered within myself what experience would next reveal. At this juncture the door of the apartment opened, and fresh friends entered to see my body. They astonished me when they passed without noticing me; and though I knew them, some of whom were the most intimate friends, and offered my hand, it was unperceived or unnoticed. I wept bitterly on finding that I was in the room invisible to all except myself; and with these thoughts I turned from my body, but at that moment observed the outstretched hand of an old friend whom I had known in former life, and who had died some twenty years previous. This inspired me with fresh hopes, and he kindly led me from the room unperceived or unheard. I however remained around the premises and in the apartment which contained my body until its interment, and witnessed the useless pomp displayed on the occasion. I also witnessed the tears of those who were nearest to me in ties of relationship, and grieved that I could not explain to them the great relief I had experienced in the change from mortal life to immortality. From old, decrepid, feeble humanity, I found myself relieved from every worldly care and burden, but still experienced a terrible dread of the future. I must now leave you for the present, but will give further description of the future state when permitted to appear."

As the above completes the first sitting of the medium, in which the spirit stated that he could stay no longer, and its lengthy detail occupying more space than was anticipated, I must defer the remaining portion till the next issue of your journal; and, in the meantime, trust that your readers will give the matter a calm consideration, and that it may prove a useful lesson in deterring mankind from the follies and vices of worldly life. As the next part will be of more vital importance to the human race than the above, I therefore thank you for your kind permission in thus endeavouring to benefit man by the publication of these important matters, and subscribe myself

Yours very respectfully,

W. W.

Birmingham, June 26, 1857.

TABLE TIPPING.

To the Editor of the Community's Journal.

Sir.—Seeing that your journal is being devoted to the diffusion of useful knowledge hitherto generally unknown to the masses of the English people, I, with an earnest desire of making them acquainted with every thing which is worth knowing by earnest seekers after truth, such as will tend to promote their future happiness and instruction, beg leave for a small space in your columns to shew to the public that our Great Creator, in His Divine wisdom, has, in all ages, permitted His holy angels to diffuse wisdom, knowledge and instruction amongst men, if we earnestly seek for this happiness by fervent prayer and desire to do good. I therefore consider it to be my duty to shew to the world how all persons may, by study and perseverance, with disinterested motives, through the fear of God, obtain spiritual communications.

The first step in the direction of this great object must begin at the foot of the scale or ladder, which will by gradation lead to the highest heavens; and practice and perseverance will cause speedy progress, leading step by step from the lowest to the highest spheres.

The following directions will enable all persons who are desirous of proving the truth of a spiritual existence to place all doubts in the shade, and establish for themselves truths which cannot be denied.

Let any table, without castors, be selected, round which let as many persons assemble of both sexes and all ages, children not excepted as can conveniently assemble round the table without touching it with their garments or any other part of the body. Let their hands be placed lightly upon the table, with the little finger of the right hand resting upon the left of their neighbours, and let the mind of each party be intent upon receiving manifestations, and one of the persons offer up a short prayer to God, the others following in silence, that He may permit spirits to appear to give truthful and instructive information by permission or Divine command. After this, let silence prevail, and the minds of the persons be passive, with their eyes fixed upon the fingers, taking care not to resist any involuntary movement they may perceive. A few minutes, seldom more than twenty, is sufficient for the spiritual power to take command of the table, which will commence vibrating, dancing, or turning round. When this manifestation becomes strong, then enquire if there is sufficient

power to answer questions; if so, to answer "Yes," by one rap; and if there is not, there will be no rap. If the answer be Yes, then enquire if the persons around the table are in their right places; if they are, one rap will be given for yes; and if not, by request, two raps will be given for No. Then let one of the circle name the individual who shall remove, and one rap will be given as the name is mentioned; so, likewise, for the person who shall change places with him or her. So, in like manner, if there be any persons whose presence is not required at the table, call the names over in succession, and the rap will be given as such name is mentioned. When all is properly arranged, let the spirit be asked for his name, when one of the persons must call over the alphabet, and a rap will be given before each letter is mentioned, ceasing with that which commences his name, which a person present should write down. In this manner both the names of the spirit are given; after which, other questions may be asked, and, if the circle desire, various experiments may be tried with the table by invisible agency, and the more frequently this is practised, the higher will be the spirits who manifest themselves, if the persons who form the circle are well-disposed, their lives spent in virtue and morality. They will at length have great and high phenomena, such as trance-speaking, or clairvoyant and writing mediums. And now, sir, having laid the facts of my own experience before your readers, I beg to state that, should any circle of friends who wish to satisfy themselves on these points, assemble anywhere in, or within a short distance of Nottingham, I shall feel most happy in joining them, or assisting by giving any direction in my power, in the developement of these great and glorious truths; and any matter or point which may not be herein fully explained, I shall feel great pleasure to explain to any meeting of persons of respectability, appointed by friends for such an occasion.

Trusting that the people generally will set themselves earnestly to work in the investigation of this important matter, and hoping this letter may meet the eye of all persons who are desirous and willing to convince themselves of the truths of the above statements,

I remain, dear sir,

Yours very respectfully,

DR. JULIEN GOLDSTEIN.

12, Trinity Terrace,

Nottingham, June 23, 1857.

TO THE MEMBERS FORMING THE COMMUNITY OF THE GREAT ORGANIZATION.

To the Editor of the Community's Journal.

Sir,—I beg leave, in behalf of the enrolled members of the Organization, to lay before them through the medium of your columns in this week's issue, an account of the strength or number of members, the total amount of contributions received up to Monday, the 29th inst., with the number of books distributed and localities in which they were distributed, so that every member may see that his or her contribution is expended in the manner and for the purpose for which it was given.

Therefore, the enrolled members are respectively informed that, since the date of the first enrollment, which took place on Monday, May 4th, 1857, the great and glorious cause has progressed with far greater rapidity than could possibly have been anticipated; and there are already persons of both sexes, numbering 61 adults, who have responded to the call made upon them in behalf of their fellow creatures, and have rallied round the standard whose emblem is "Universal Charity and Love to all Men." Each of these persons has contributed according to his or her capacity, none exceeding more than one shilling per week, which diminishes downwards to sixpence, fourpence, threepence, twopence, one penny, a half-penny, and as low as a farthing per week, or one penny per month. Still it is received with equal thanks, knowing that each heart is in the cause, even as the widow's mite was accepted. Each night's contribution amounts to, as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Monday, May 4th, 1857, ..	0	2	8½
Friday, — 8th, — ..	0	0	0
Monday, — 11th, — ..	0	4	1½
Friday, — 15th, — ..	0	1	5
Monday, — 18th, — ..	0	5	2½
Friday, — 22nd, — ..	0	2	10
Monday, — 25th, — ..	0	4	2½
Friday, — 29th, — ..	0	3	4
Monday, June 1st, — ..	0	3	10½
Friday, — 5th, — ..	0	3	3½
Monday, — 8th, — ..	0	4	4½
Friday, — 12th, — ..	0	3	4½
Monday, — 15th, — ..	0	4	10
Friday, — 19th, — ..	0	4	6½
Monday, — 22nd, — ..	0	4	4
Friday, — 26th, — ..	0	4	3
Monday, — 29th, — ..	0	5	0

Total contributions received from
the whole of the members up to
the last mentioned date, } 3 1 8½

It must be understood that all the members have not paid their contributions weekly, some having only paid once since their enrolment, and the enrolment takes place twice a week as specified in the printed rules in the possession of each member, and as may be seen above. And, now, for the satisfaction of each member and the public generally, I will here show to what use the funds have been expended. In the first place, the treasurer of the circle, by order of the committee, paid £1 2s. 6d. for printing the rules and pledge for the signature of members. Secondly, as the object of the Organization is, that its funds should be devoted to spreading the great truths throughout the length and breadth of the land, by assisting persons in distributing the works, the proprietors or gentlemen who found the money for their publication, notwithstanding the immense outlay, have graciously condescended for the benefit of their fellow creatures, to allow the works to be distributed gratuitously in the districts where they had not before reached, at the following immense sacrifice. For every shilling work they are paid out of the Community's fund twopence; for every threepenny work three-

farthings; and for every three-halfpenny work three farthings. The result is, that on Monday, June 15th, the committee dispatched a man to Hull, who distributed gratuitously the following works :

- 4 doz. Scriptural Magazines,
- 50 Charity, Rest, and Freedom,
- 50 People's Guide,
- 24 Swedenborg's Revelations,

all of which was only charged to the Community's fund 13s. 1d. with cost of special train, 3s. 6d., amounting to 16s. 7d.; the value of the books at the published price being £2 15s. On the same day, another person was sent to Mansfield and neighbourhood, to distribute gratuitously,

- 3 doz. Charity, Rest, and Freedom,
- 1 doz. People's Guide,
- 2 doz. Swedenborg's Revelations,
- 2 doz. Scriptural Magazines,

charged to the funds 8s. 6d.; cost of train, 2s. 2d.; total amount, 10s. 8d.; the value of books at the published price being £1 19s. On Wednesday, the 17th June, the committee dispatched a person to Derby and neighbourhood, with the following books for gratuitous distribution :

- 3 doz. Charity, Rest, and Freedom,
- 3 doz. Swedenborg's Revelations,
- 4 doz. Scriptural Magazines,

charged to the Community's fund, 11s. 3d.; cost of train, 3s.; total amount, 14s. 3d.; the value of books at published price being £2 11s. Sent by train to the Isle of Wight, for gratuitous distribution,

- 2 doz. Swedenborg's Revelations,
- 4 doz. Charity, Rest, and Freedom,
- 4 doz. Scriptural Magazines,

charged to the Community's fund 10s.; cost of carriage, 1s. 6d.; total amount, 11s. 6d.; value at published price, £2 2s. Eight weeks' wages for errand boy, in the cause of the Community, at 1s. 6d. per week, 12s.; his wages being 2s. 6d. per week, but his time not being fully occupied for the Community, we pay the other shilling from our private resources. Expense of postage, stationery, and other little matters connected with the Organization, 5s.

Total expenses defrayed by the Treasurer, who holds the Community's funds	£	s.	d.
	4	12	6
Total amount of Receipts from the members of the Community,	3	1	8½
Balance due to the treasurer,	1	10	9½

Total value of books, at the published price, which have been given away, } 9 7 0

The selling price of every Swedenborg being 1s. 0d.

Ditto ditto Charity, Rest, &c., 0s. 3d.

Ditto ditto People's Guide, 0s. 8d.

Ditto ditto Script. Magazine, 0s. 1½d.

so the members may observe by the above scale, that a loss has occurred to the proprietors of the works amounting to £4 14s. 6d., which they have voluntarily sacrificed for the welfare of mankind in general, and that at the above rate, there is due to treasurer from the Community's fund, £1 10s 9½d., which we have advanced for pro-

moting the cause and spreading the divine truths. With this explanation, I now bid farewell to the members for the present, and trusting that, as they see to what end they are labouring, they will endeavour to solicit true friends to enrol themselves; so that, in confidence, we may be enabled to send forth warnings to the people free of charge, as our only object is to do good and enlighten our fellow creatures in the path of wisdom and truth. Next week, more important public information and instruction will be given. And, now, with thanks to the Editor for thus infringing upon his time and space, we subscribe ourselves,

J. G. H. BROWN, *Medium.*

T. P. SLEATH, *Secretary.*

In behalf of the Spiritual Circle held at Walker Street, Sneinton, Nottingham.

DIVINE REVELATIONS, ANCIENT AND MODERN.

[BEGINNING WITH THE ANCIENT.]

To the Editor of the Community's Journal.

Sir, I beg to be favoured with a small space in your columns for a few remarks on the above subject, hoping they will prove instructive, and be made a blessing to mankind in general, and prepare the minds of your readers for the fulfilment of the ancient prophets' words. If any of your readers should doubt the fulfilment of the words of God, declared to the ancient prophets by his holy angels, and through the prophets to the world, I need only refer them to the fulfilled predictions, and ask where are the great and mighty cities of the earth whose destruction was foretold centuries before it transpired; yea, they are mouldering to dust, and but few remains are left to prove that they ever existed. How few in those days were willing to believe the predictions of the ancient prophets; yea, they treated their words as an idle tale, and looked upon them as insane. Thus it was with Noah, when he was commanded to warn the inhabitants of the earth that a great and mighty flood was about to spread over the country, and that the people who were warned by him, and did not believe, would be swept from the earth, as with the besom of destruction. At the same time Noah was commanded to build an ark, or large covered vessel, capable of resisting the storms and tempests, and thus preserve himself and family from the descending rains and howling winds. Noah, obedient to the commands he had received, set about the work at once, no doubt amidst the scoffs and jeers of the people that surrounded him; but, did he let their taunts and reproaches hinder him? No, he kept working and warning the people that this calamity would speedily come upon them, but they heeded him not; they went on marrying and giving in marriage, eating and drinking, making merry, scoffing and jeering, and treating with contempt the words of God, spoken through the mouth of his servant Noah. They rose morning after morning, and beheld the sun rising in all its resplendent glory, gilding the mountain tops with its glorious rays; they felt its genial warmth, and rejoiced in the beauties of nature which surrounded them. They heard the birds warble forth their lovely strains of music,

yea, all creation appeared to rejoice in the bounties of Providence, the very trees appeared to clap their hands with gladness. But man alone, of all creation, had ceased to render to his maker and preserver the praise that was his due. They became wicked, and their wickedness was beheld by the all-seeing eye of God, and brought down his displeasure upon them. But to show to man that he willeth not the death of any sinner, he commanded his servant to warn them, and gave them time for repentance; yea, every stroke of the hammer that sounded on the ark, was a warning to them, but they heeded it not, and no doubt laughed the old man to scorn, for being so foolish. Time rolled on, the ark daily progressed until it was completed, and Noah and his family, with all that God had commanded, were gathered into the ark and safely enclosed; even then the people would not believe. But the day of the Lord arrived, the clouds gathered into darkness, the heat of the sun ceased to penetrate them, the rain began to descend, the rivers began to rise, until they rolled along in torrents; the waters rolled down the mountain sides and swelled the rivers until their banks could not contain the mighty stream; day after day passed on, the rains continued to descend, then the people would begin to be anxious for the rains to cease, they would rise morning after morning expecting to see the rain abated, the waters subsiding, but every day increased their anxiety. And, as the waters began to spread and cover the meadows, and gradually kept rising and rising until at last the houses began to be inundated; then might be seen the people flocking to the hills and highest grounds in their neighbourhood, carrying with them their children and a few of the things they most prized. How great would be their agony when they beheld their homes afar off, where they had been cradled in the lap of affection, and beheld all their worldly wealth destroyed and swallowed up by the watery element. In the distance they behold the ark, the waters surround it, the rains beat upon it, but its inhabitants were safe; they can hear the rains beat upon it, the waters rush against it until it begins to rock and heave to and fro, and the ark floats, gradually it rises, until it drifts before the wind. On the hill tops, and in the trees, might be seen the trembling, shivering people, who only a few days before were scoffing and jeering at the supposed ignorance of Noah and his family. Now, what would they give to be in that ark which in the distance is floating about? Then would they remember the warnings that had been given them, but now it is too late, the waters are rising daily and hourly, hill after hill is covered until the loftiest mountains, even the Ararat itself is deluged, but the ark floats in safety, the helm is guided by that God whose commands the inmates had obeyed. No fear of that vessel being wrecked. He that guides the mighty planets in their course, he that governs the universe by his almighty power, guides the ark between the hills and mountains; they are safe, since God had promised to conduct them in safety through the calamity. Thus the ancients perished, because of their wickedness. Had they believed in the warnings given them, and repented of the evils they were daily and hourly committing, they might have been saved from that dreadful calamity. They could not, nor would not believe, that

the eternal King of heaven and earth had revealed his will to a man like Noah. They would not listen to the voice of wisdom, so they perished in the midst of their unbelief. Thus Moses, a chosen man of God, was sent to warn the Egyptians to cease to oppress the children of Israel, and to release them from bondage, but they continued to oppress the people, and were determined to hold them in captivity, because their labour was beneficial to the Egyptians. The taskmasters which were placed over the Hebrews, oppressed them, so that their cries reached unto heaven and brought down the wrath of God upon that land. This history cannot be believed by the great mass of wealthy and professed Christian rulers in our day, or they would cease to oppress the people, lest the wrath of God should be poured out upon them also, if they believe God to be an unchangeable being they would stop and consider the consequences of continuing to go on in their sin and wickedness, yet the teachers of the present day would make us believe that God has not the same respect for the poor, oppressed, and down-trodden people of the earth, as when he sent his servants of old to pronounce the woes upon them; but will tell the people that it is the will of God that they should be poor and not have the common necessities of life, which is a libel on his character. Or, why does he not make one sun to shine on the rich and another on the poor? Why does he not send his rains on the crops of the rich, and withhold them from the poor? Instead of doing this, he sends his bounties on the earth for all. Then how is it that the poor have not the bounties of the earth, as well as those who call themselves the rich and the great? Because the rulers have robbed the poor of their birthright, have usurped the lands and claimed them as their own; and not satisfied with this, they claim also the whole of the produce, and compel the people to labour for them and theirs, and then fix their wages at such a rate, which deprives them of the blessings which God sent for them to enjoy; and to increase their wealth they hoard up the food, so that its price may be all but beyond the reach of the poor. The teachers of the present day sanction this oppression, and thus lead the oppressors on to their own destruction; for, as God punished the Egyptians for their tyranny and oppression in those days, so will he punish the oppressors and the upholders of oppression in our days. The prophet Isaiah declares: "Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him. As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths. The Lord standeth up to plead, and standeth to judge the people. The Lord will enter into judgment with the ancients of his people, and the princes thereof: for ye have eaten up the vineyard: the spoil of the poor is in your houses. What mean ye that ye beat my people to pieces, and grind the faces of the poor? saith the Lord God of Hosts." Thus we find the ancient prophets denouncing oppression, in the name of the Lord of Hosts, in language terrible to the wicked tyrants who withhold from the people their rights, and as terrible to those who lead the people and cause them to err. But the rulers and teachers will not believe that God will

punish them for their wickedness, because his wrath has been delayed so long. But, let them remember, that God is just as well as merciful, and will punish all according to the deeds done in the flesh, and though they may appear to prosper for a time, yet the vengeance of heaven will descend upon them, for the angel of the Lord has declared that

Wicked men must suffer sorrow,
Vengeance falleth from the skies;
Lo! the day may be to-morrow,
Though another spring may rise.

But I do not expect the rulers and teachers of the present day to believe, any more than they did in the days of Jeremiah. He warned the people day after day, but they would not believe; yea, he was imprisoned for prophesying against the city, but nevertheless the decrees of heaven were fulfilled and Jerusalem, was taken whilst the prophet was in prison. The only king and people we have on record who believed in prophecy were the Ninevites. They believed the words of the prophet Jonah, and repented in sackcloth and ashes. Thus the vengeance of God was delayed only for a time, as history proves, for that city was levelled to the ground, destruction came upon it, and for centuries was lost, and the place where it once stood was but doubtfully pointed out. But recently, as if to prove the truth of ancient prophecy, some of its ruins have been unburied and brought to the British Museum.

But let me lead the readers thoughts to ancient prophecy which has not been fulfilled, but which the signs of the times point out as being on the eve of fulfilment. Before entering fully into this subject, I would refer the reader to the third chapter of the prophecy of Micah, commencing at the fifth verse and read to the twelfth or last verse, and he will there find the cause why Jerusalem was to become heaps, and Zion ploughed as a field. It was because the heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divined for money. Yet, says the prophet, they will lean upon the Lord and say, Is not the Lord among us? None evil can come upon us. How apropos these words are to the present day. How literally has every part of the prediction been fulfilled. "Therefore night shall be unto you, that ye shall not have a vision, and it shall be dark unto you that ye shall not divine, and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them. Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded; yea, they shall cover their lips: for there is no answer of God." Then the prophet goes on to show what shall take place in the last days, saying: "He shall judge among many people, and

T. C. S.

To be continued.

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

The Earth's Journey.—In winter we are nearest the sun, and in summer farthest from it; for the differences in the seasons are not occasioned by the greater or less distance of the earth from the sun, but by the more or

less oblique direction of the sun's rays. The length of the path travelled over by the earth is estimated at 567,019,740 miles; and as this immense distance is passed over in a year, the earth must move seventeen miles a second, a rapidity so far exceeding our conceptions, that it gave very just occasion to the pleasant remark of Lichtenberg, "That while one man salutes another man in the street, he goes many miles bare-headed without catching cold.

News for the Mormons.—The Mormons have lost one of their great lights, one J. M. Grant, and the announcement of his death closes in the most approved obituary style. He has gone now, leaving seven disconsolate widows and several children, four of whom are under eight weeks of age, to mourn their irreparable loss. When Mormon men die widows become plentiful in the Salt Lake territory.

The Community's Journal;

OR,

STANDARD OF TRUTH.

Saturday, July 4, 1857.

NATIONAL EDUCATION,

OR,

MOCKERY OF THE PEOPLE.

Can it be possible that the great masses of the people are yet so blindly infatuated by the promises of their rulers as to believe for one moment that they will ever use any real exertion to educate the present or rising generations of the working classes, when the said rulers are perfectly aware that it is only to the ignorance and unenlightened character of the masses of the people of this country that they owe their wealth, power, and affluence.

It is not only possible, but it is true, that there are numerous individuals who believe the cant and hypocritical assertions of our rulers, when they, at any time, condescend to hold forth promises to better the condition of the people; and those who do believe this mockery are ever ready to assist in calumniating or crushing any person who is bold enough to vindicate their rights by unmasking aristocratic oppression and hypocrisy. It is the imbecility and idiocy of the few infatuated royalists of which our aristocratic rulers avail themselves, for the purpose of enabling them to work out their fiendish schemes with more ease and with less direct effrontery; and yet the imbecile worshippers

of royalty will not see the web which is gradually but surely weaving around them. General education, in all ages, even as true Christianity, has always been opposed by the ruling powers; but Christianity, in truth, notwithstanding every effort made to overthrow it, has stood its ground, until the ruling powers, finding that they could not destroy it, embraced it, that they might turn it to their own advantage, and thus, under a cloak of hypocrisy, ensured friends from the very cause which they so long treated as a foe, which they afterwards corrupted; and formed catechisms and creeds which blaspheme and libel the great God, and degrade and stifle the intellectual and spiritual propensities of poor, suffering, helpless, degraded humanity. So it is and will be with the education, for our rulers have at all times objected to the three best qualities being diffused amongst the working classes. For, said they, by learning to read, they will learn to understand their rights, and will be enabled to dictate to the legislator as to how they shall be governed; and to learn to write would enable them to communicate their grievances to different parts of the country, and so create danger to the state; and arithmetic can be of no real service to them, as they can have no accounts to keep. But, notwithstanding this opposition, the voice of the people prevailed, and reading and writing, with arithmetic, have gradually spread, until our rulers are alarmed, and with hypocritical assertions, as a last resource, come forth, with the noble prince, who, it is well known, is utterly opposed to every thing which would be likely to enlighten or benefit the condition of the enslaved masses, through whom they declare that the people shall be educated, so that science and art may progress. But, let the people beware, for, be assured that this policy on the part of the government is the only means which they can adopt to assure their own ends, and thwart the designs of the people, by holding forth to them promises of success that they may be quieted, while the web is woven so securely around them, and they become so entangled, that all hopes of extrication are destroyed, and the object of their promise further off than when the bland and crafty promises were made.

THE OUTCAST FAMILY; OR, THE VICTIMS OF TREACHERY;

(Continued from our last).

HE quickly reached the side of the wood, where he again paused to listen, until another report from the gun assured him that the poachers were still in the wood. He accordingly entered by a different route to that which the poachers had taken, and a few minutes brought him to the spot where the poachers were busily engaged. Mr. S. concealed himself for a few minutes behind one of the thick firs, for the purpose of being enabled to identify the poachers, who, up to this period, were ignorant of his presence; and though he was at a distance of some fifteen yards, there was sufficient light from the moon to see that distance with tolerable perfection, but he resolved to get nearer if possible, and accordingly moved stealthily from tree to tree, but the sound of his feet upon the frozen grass and leaves aroused the poachers, and the quick eye of Seargent at once recognized the form of the keeper, and, turning to Smith, he said, "Take up the bag and be off, for we are caught, old S. is close upon us." They were about to leave the spot with the bag, which appeared very bulky, when Mr. S., the keeper, wishing to possess the booty, called out in a firm voice, "I know you both, and if you attempt to stir I will shoot you." "Then fire away!" said Seargent, "you will not shoot us both at once, and it will be my turn for the second shot." As he said this, Smith darted behind the trees, and before the keeper could cover either of them with his gun, several clusters of trees and shrubs were between them, and they hurried along the path, by which they quickly cleared the wood, the keeper following them close upon their track. Smith having the bag, which was heavy and cumbersome, found it difficult to keep pace with Seargent; but on leaving the wood before the keeper, they turned in a direction unsuspected by him, and concealed themselves in a ditch not twenty yards from the entrance to the wood. Three minutes had scarcely elapsed when the keeper emerged from the wood, and, arriving on the path outside, he paused and looked in both directions. The poachers could not see him from their hiding place, but they heard him mutter to himself, "They have got through the gate, but no matter, I know them, and can swear to them, and will take out a warrant for them on Monday." As he said this, he walked hastily away in an opposite direction, and the sound of his footsteps quickly died away. Smith and Seargent shortly after left their hiding place, followed the direction of the keeper until they reached the gate before mentioned, when they took the nearest way to the main road leading to the village, and very shortly arrived at Smith's cottage. The keeper returned to the White Hart, when he found the company had gone, and in answer to the inquiries of the landlord, he said, "the poachers were gone when he got there," for he did not mean to divulge his intentions, lest the poachers should become aware, and keep out of the way of the constables; therefore he evaded any direct answer, neither did he know that Smith and Seargent had heard him involuntarily express his resolution, and which they resolved to thwart if possible. As soon as

the poachers had arrived at Smith's cottage, they began to examine their booty. Mrs. Smith was still up, and watched their actions minutely, with evident symptoms of terror, alarm, and anxiety depicted on her countenance. Thirteen large pheasants were taken from the bag and placed upon the table, and Seargent, laughing heartily, said, "Well, Jim, this has not been a bad two hours work any how, and, at half-a-crown a-piece for each of them, it will keep us in food and fire for a week, any how." "Shall we get that for them?" inquired Smith, eagerly. "I shall take them up to B.'s as soon as it is light, and he will find the money, I know, at once, for he is never without." B., the man alluded to, was a village huxter, who kept an ass and cart, and visited the neighbouring towns, collecting rags and bones, and selling fruit, and attended the neighbouring market regularly, and would buy or sell any thing, and obtained a comfortable living, though he was looked upon suspiciously by many, especially the farmers. Seargent accordingly took the bag of game on the Sunday morning, for which he received the thirteen half-crowns from B., who said, "This is a good draw, Sam, a few nights' work like this would soon set you up." "Yes, said Sam, "but it's between two of us." "So much the worse," said B. "But are you safe, think you?" "Well, I believe old S. saw us, and knew us," said Sam, "at least he said so; but he will not get a warrant before Tuesday, market day, and we shall be gone out when he comes back on Tuesday night." "Then you will slip him nicely," said the man B., laughing. The two men parted, Seargent returned to Smith's cottage, where he divided the money with Smith, and both appeared cheerful, and carefully concealed what they had heard the keeper say, from poor Mrs. Smith; who, on seeing the money, and feeling thankful within herself that her husband was safe at home, and that her children would be provided for for the next week, tried to look cheerful, though her heart felt heavy and sad. The whole of that day was passed over with a degree of comfort not experienced for some weeks past; for, though it was Sunday, Mrs. Smith was able to provide food, and at night Smith did not go out, and Seargent promised to visit him at four o'clock the next day, and they accordingly parted. Seargent went to his lodgings, and at an early hour Smith and his family retired to bed. That same evening, shortly after dark, the keeper, who had carefully concealed his intentions from all persons, set out on a bye way, as was his usual custom in the evening, and crossed the fields, carefully avoiding observation, in the direction of the village of S., a distance of about three miles from B. Green. On arriving at the village, he entered the public-house, with the landlord of which he was wery familiar. Calling for refreshment, he sat down and entered freely into conversation with the persons present, and staid till a late hour, and appeared to enjoy himself, without attracting any notice or suspicion as to the object of his errand. When the company had retired, he informed the landlord that, as he had stayed later than he intended, he thought he should remain there for the night, as he had done on other occasions. Accordingly the landlord at once assented, and shortly after the inmates of the house retired

to rest. In this village there resided one Squire E., who was a county magistrate, and as the keeper S. was partially aware of the intentions of Seargent and Smith, whom he knew did not expect being arrested till Tuesday, he resolved therefore to see Squire E., as early as possible on Monday morning, state his case, obtain a warrant, and have them arrested on Monday, before they could anticipate such an event; hence his visit to the village of S. on the Sunday night. At nine o'clock on the Monday morning he visited the hall, obtained an interview with the magistrate, stated his reasons for applying so early, and Squire E. being a stern advocate for punishing poachers, a warrant was at once granted, and placed in the hands of the keeper, who returned to B. Green, without any of the inhabitants knowing where he had been. He first of all, on reaching the village, repaired to the parish constable, who at once accompanied him to the house where Seargent lodged, and though it was twelve o'clock in the day, Seargent was in bed; he was of course arrested, left in charge of the keeper, with directions to be conveyed to the White Hart; while the constable repaired to Smith's cottage, found him at home, and arrested him; and, heedless of the cries and supplications of his wife, conducted him also to the White Hart, where the keeper and Seargent had arrived, handcuffed together. The keeper was immediately liberated, and the two prisoners secured, where they were kept all day at the expense of the constable; they ate and drank merrily, and at night were provided with a bed, under the care of two men, charged by the constable for that purpose. The following morning they were conveyed to Newmarket, arraigned before a bench of magistrates, and committed to the county jail of Cambridge to hard labour for three calendar months.

CHAPTER IV.

The hardships of Mrs. Smith now really begin, the release from prison, and the plot for their ruin.

WHEN the parish constable led Smith, a prisoner from his cottage, poor Mrs. Smith's grief would be difficult to describe, for up to this time she had no knowledge that they had been discovered, and the shock was so sudden and unexpected that it almost deprived her of her senses. She however followed to the White Hart, where she remained for a considerable time absorbed in grief, though at intervals she heaped imprecations on the head of Seargent, for leading her husband into this trouble. The next day, when being conducted from the magistrates office towards the jail at Cambridge, it was with difficulty she was prevailed upon not to follow, as Cambridge was full thirteen miles distant. During the three months of her husband's incarceration, she and her children experienced the greatest want and privation. For, the weather continued extremely cold, and the scanty pittance allowed by the parish to herself and children, was scarcely sufficient to furnish them with bread, so that fire and every other comfort was placed beyond their reach. Her poor neighbours were unable to assist her, while those who had it in their power

scuffed and smiled at her wretched situation. At length, however, the three months expired, and the two men returned from prison, Smith resolved to be a better man, and to endeavour to live by his labour, or to perish, sooner than again incur the penalty of imprisonment, if he were permitted to do so; and though spring was fast approaching and work was becoming plentiful, yet, strange to say, the farmers would not employ him, for, they said he had lost his character, had been in prison for poaching, and could not be trusted, for those who would poach would do any thing else, and therefore none would have him upon their premises. Month after month rolled on in this manner without work, and himself and family frequently without food, and the game season was over, so that every source appeared cut off. At length poverty increased to such a degree that almost every article they possessed had been disposed of, and their emaciated forms were truly spectacles of extreme wretchedness and misery. When the harvest arrived, work was more plentiful, and by sheer industry assisted by fine weather, he was enabled to retrieve some of his misfortunes. But this being a period of short duration, it was not more than six weeks, when all out-door labour had again ceased, at least with him. When harvest was ended work diminished, and the farmers still having a dislike towards Smith would not employ him; the result was, that poverty again came upon him and his family, and they were shortly again in the most destitute condition, and as the autumn season had nearly expired and the winter approached, their condition became worse, and the man Seargent again renewed his acquaintance with Smith, when the unfortunate man listened to his persuasions and they again followed their old practice of poaching, by which means they were enabled to drag out their existence for a considerable time, until the circumstances occurred which form the chief object of the publication of this narrative.

At the time of which we are writing there was then living in the parish of B. Green, a wealthy farmer named C., who held possession of the Old Wick Farm before alluded to, one of the largest farms in the parish. Mr. C. was a man about thirty-five years of age, some five feet seven inches in height, slenderly built, but of dark and rather repulsive complexion, small hazel eyes, which peered beneath his long shaggy eyebrows with the fierceness of the panther. His manner of bearing and speech towards his workmen or the poor villagers, were haughty in the extreme, and he treated his servants with an equal degree of scorn and contempt, as a Virginian planter would his slaves; and the two men Seargent and Smith he would have used any exertion to have exterminated altogether. It is to the deep, subtle, craft, cunning, and malicious revenge of this Mr. C., that these two unfortunate men owed all the misfortunes which came upon them, and even their lives he will have to account for to the great Judge of all wrongs whenever he quits that world in which he created so much misery for others. During the winter of that year many depredations were committed upon the several farms, none of which could be traced to the rightful perpetrators; the result was, that Smith and Seargent received the blame, and many schemes and traps were

laid to catch them in some fact, all of which failed, till Mr. C. devised a scheme which ultimately succeeded, and which was without exception the most atrocious act of villany ever committed, to explain which I must now conduct the reader to the town of Newmarket, wherein, on the afternoon of Tuesday, in the month of January, the next year from the date last mentioned, we find two men seated in a private parlour of a public-house in the principal street or thoroughfare of the town, the result of whose conversation was not known till several years afterwards, when the man upon his death-bed confessed to the facts which will be related, and which thoroughly exposed the villainous conduct of farmer C. And to make our readers properly understand the narrative, the plot which was here concocted between the two men must be here related, though no other living soul heard it, so the man stated in his death-bed confession. On the night in question when farmer C. and the man whose name was J. were seated in the parlour before mentioned, after they had drank and greetings of familiarity had passed between them, Mr. C. said, "Well, Mr. J., can I trust you?" "I have already pledged myself to secrecy and if you think well to furnish the means I have no doubt of being enabled to succeed," said Mr. J. What do you think it will cost? enquired Mr. C. "I do not know," said the man, "they are long hungry chaps and will put a good deal of eating and drinking out of sight." It will here be observed that this was not their first meeting, and that the man knew both Smith and Seargent, hence his familiarity with Mr. C., who said in reply to the last remarks of his companion, "I do not mind a few pounds so as the job can be done neat and without attracting suspicion." "Leave that to me," said he, "if I can have a little money I can evade all suspicion." "That you shall have," said Mr. C., "and now let me hear what are your plans of operation." The man J. was a butcher in a small way, and was well known in the neighbourhood of Newmarket as drunken Dick, and whom it was well known would do any thing for money; hence he had been employed by Mr. C. to assist him in carrying out this plot against the men Smith and Seargent. Dick, as we will now call him, now related his plans, stating that as he knew both the men well, he would go to B. Green, get into their company, treat them well, and when once half drunk money would induce them to do anything, and if he could not succeed the first time, repeated kindness would win them over; but he should like to have money to offer them on the spot so as to inspire them with courage, and enough to buy over old H. the constable to assist him in case of need. Mr. C. acquiesced in his proposition, and handed over to him £7 for the project, and the time was fixed for its carrying out, which was not to pass the next Sunday. The plot was, any robbery or depredation which he could most readily bribe them to commit, and then have them arrested by the bribed constable, who would swear that whatever might be stolen had been brought to Dick for purchase, who being a butcher and having a light cart and horse, he at once hit upon a plan, and the next Saturday set out to B. Green for the purpose of carrying it out. How he succeeded will shortly be seen.

(To be continued in our next.)

THE HEROIC MOTHER.

During the early part of the Spanish rebellion, in the summer of 1835, and shortly after Don Carlos had declared hostilities against the throne of the infant Queen Isabella, and before any assistance from England had arrived for the purpose of co-operating with the royalist troops in the attempt to put down rebellion in Spain, there was then living in the neighbourhood of Aruaney, about midway between the last-named place and a village called Anderwine, a respectable family whose name was Zalorona. The family consisted of the man, his wife, two sons, and a girl about ten years of age. Antonio, the father, was a man about forty-five years of age, athletically built, and mild and moderate in his temperament and disposition. His two sons were named respectively Pedro and Juan. Pedro, the elder, about nineteen years of age, and the younger not more than seventeen. Their occupation was agriculture and manufacture of cider; and at the time of which we are writing, Mr. Zalorona was absent from home on business of importance and was in the town of San Sebastian, not more than twelve miles distant, when the circumstances occurred concerning which we are about to write. He had been absent about three days, when one morning, about ten o'clock, while his two sons were employed in the fields, they were suddenly aroused by the report of musketry in the direction of a group of houses not more than a quarter of a mile from their home, which, with its outbuildings, stood alone on an elevated spot from which a considerable distance could be seen in every direction. At this period Spain was convulsed with rebellious movements in many parts, and large bodies of men were already organised in favour of Don Carlos, under the command of experienced and efficient men. Detachments of several regiments of cavalry, infantry, and artillery of the regular Spanish army, had also declared themselves in his favour, and several encounters had already taken place in different districts between the Royalist and Carlist troops, the latter on each occasion had been successful; and all through the country in which the Royalists had sway, the greatest exertions were made to strengthen the Royalist forces by organising Militia regiments and enrolling volunteers; while the Carlists went in every direction, and fetched out all able-bodied men or boys and forced them to take up arms, or murdered them upon the spot. It was one of these blood-thirsty and cold-blooded massacres which startled the two brothers at their work; for they knew that the Carlist garrison was only a few miles distant, and they daily anticipated such an event. They accordingly hastened to the house and told their mother, who, instead of exhibiting fear, fright, or confusion, as might have been anticipated, she, with heroic courage and cool deliberation, gave directions to make preparations for defence. For, in consequence of some anticipated outrage, they had three muskets, with many rounds of ammunition, in the house, which she ordered to be loaded and placed in readiness with the ammunition on the table. The house itself was encircled by a stone wall of considerable height, enclosing a garden entered by a gate at the front; the outbuildings being outside

the enclosure, without any ingress to the yard or garden backwards, and but two entrances to the house, viz.—back and front. This courageous woman saw the front gate secured inside, closed the windows which were made secure inside, then fastened both doors, and taking up one of the muskets herself, tied the corners of her apron through its strings to her waist, filled it with cartridges and told each of her sons to take their muskets, with ammunition, and follow her. She then ascended the stairs, stationed her eldest son at the only window which commanded an approach to the back of the house, while she and Juan watched through the front window. She then called her daughter, the little girl before mentioned, and directed her to the windows in the upper part of the house, and instructed her to look in each direction, and to give notice if any person were seen approaching either to the back or front, there being two windows in the upper room. She then addressed her two sons with calm and deliberate voice, saying, that they must remember that, in the absence of their father, the responsibility in the protection of their lives and property devolved upon their steadiness and courage; and that she was resolved to die in its defence rather than yield up herself and property to the blood-thirsty ruffians of Don Carlos. As she said this she fell upon her knees; her two sons without uttering a word followed her example, and seizing each other by the hand, the mother swore before God the house should only be entered by these ruffians over her body. The two sons repeated the oath, and the mother embraced each of them, who, in turn, clasped their mother to their breast, and the scene was one which no language could adequately describe. All this occurred in much less time than it has taken to describe it; and just as the mother was endeavouring to give other council to her sons, the little girl in the upper room rushed down stairs screaming with fright, saying, through her sobs; "Oh, mother, they are coming—they are coming! I see them coming up the hill." Her mother hastened to the window, and glanced in the direction whence her sons had heard the firing; and at no great distance, between the trees, saw a party of armed men advancing, apparently twelve or fourteen in number, and never was there more fortitude, courage, or calmness displayed by the greatest general than was exhibited by this heroic and patriotic woman on this fearful and important occasion. With a firm voice she first ordered the child to conceal herself in the most out of the way part of the house, and not to show herself at the windows under any circumstances, giving her sons directions not to fire unless violence was committed. She clenched her musket and took her station at the window, her youngest son by her side. In a few minutes the sound of voices was heard shouting, "*Viva la Don Carlos*," (long live Don Carlos): and at length, amidst yells and shouts and sounds of a trumpet and drum, a loud knocking was heard at the gate, but no answer was given nor any person appeared. They continued kicking and shouting for a considerable time to no effect, until some of them retired a few paces to obtain a view of the house, which the gate and wall prevented. At this moment Juan stepped forward to look out of the window, and his form

was seen by one of the rebels who instantly fired. The ball passed through the window and flattened itself as it struck the opposite wall. At this moment a triumphant shout rent the air, the knocking at the gate recommenced, and Mrs. Z. directed that the first man who entered the premises should be fired at. Several shots were now fired at the front windows, till at length, as if tired of endeavouring to force open the gate, they mounted the wall, and the first man who shewed himself above its summit was shot by her own hand. She then stepped aside to reload, and her son took her place and fired at those who had now reached the top of the wall. The shot took effect upon one; two, however, dropped inside and opened the gate, and several rushed in and besieged the house. In the meantime several shots were fired with deliberate aims upon the assailants in the yard, both by the mother and her son, with precision and effect. Some of the rebels had now reached the back of the house, but were met by a shot from the musket of Pedro, who still kept his station at the back window. All their efforts could make no impression on the house or effect an entrance, and their firing was of no avail, nor dare they move from the house side, or they were instantly shot from the window. Some of them who remained outside endeavoured to set fire to the out-buildings, but through some unaccountable circumstance, no material damage was done, and some rubbish and dirty straw was all that was consumed. For nearly three hours did this heroic woman and her two sons defend their lives and property against this band of ruffians five times their numbers, while not a single spark of courage, energy, or fortitude failed in either; but cool, calm, and collected, they kept at their several posts, only firing when certain of their object. At length the reports of the musketry aroused the peasantry in the neighbouring districts, who hurried off to Arnane, where royalist troops were stationed, and information of the affair being given, a detachment of a hundred men of the regular army was sent to the rescue of the heroic family, where they arrived unexpectedly, and were within thirty yards of the house before the alarm was raised. The Carlists however instantly took to flight, leaving their dead and wounded behind them. The soldiers pursued them, and shot down several as they ran, who, being wounded, were taken prisoners and removed to the garrison. The soldiers surrounded the house, the heroic woman opened the doors, and the scene which presented itself was most terrible; five lay dead in the yard and several were wounded, and two were found dead outside the gate, and four had been removed to the garrison; so that the numbers must have far exceeded their anticipations when they first saw them advancing through the trees. Mrs. Z. and her two sons cordially welcomed the timely arrival of the soldiers, whom she immediately provided with every thing her house could furnish for refreshment, and related her whole adventure to the officer commanding the detachment. And, as the governor of the town had headed the troops and learnt that the Carlists were numerous in the immediate neighbourhood, a strong picquet was stationed at the house of Mr. Zalorona, which was used as an outpost for several weeks, during

which time Mr. Z. returned home, and many were the congratulations he received upon the noble conduct of his heroic wife and two noble sons. About two months after, a large body of the Carlists under General Gomez marched against Arnane, pillaging and plundering every house upon their track, dragging with them every able-bodied man and boy capable of bearing arms, from twelve years old and upwards, and forcing them to fight against the royalists, and violating the most sacred rights of civilization, heaping insult and injury on females, young and old who were opposed to their cause. Mr. Zalorona's house shared in this devastation, himself and two sons forced into the Carlist ranks, their house occupied by Carlist troops, and the town of Arnane captured, and the heroic woman and her daughter were subject to the most brutal treatment, which she could not describe. The town remained in the hands of the Carlists up to May, 1837, at which time it was recaptured by the British under Sir De Lacy Evans, and Mr. Z. had made his escape from the Carlists, and his dilapidated property was restored to him. One of his sons, the eldest, Pedro, had lost his right leg in the Carlist service, and the constitution of the youngest was shattered through the complicated hardships he had endured, and had made his way in disguise, through sickness, to his own home, where the father, mother, daughter, and two sons were still living when this horrible tragedy was related to me.

May, 1837.

J. N. R.

MUTINY AMONG THE NATIVE TROOPS OF INDIA.

THE last news from India is of an alarming and melancholy nature; the whole of the native troops in the Bengal presidency are either in open rebellion, or verging to that state of disaffection. More than eight thousand men have revolted, and a general massacre has been perpetrated upon the European residents; and when the native soldiers commenced their murderous work in the neighbourhood of Murat, destroying women and children indiscriminately without remorse; the officers who left their bungaloes and attempted to deter the men from their cruelties, were instantly shot down. A detachment of the queen's 6th regiment of dragoons and the 60th rifles came up, but not before much bloodshed had taken place, and put the rebellious mutineers to flight, several of whom were sabered. They were however not pursued sufficiently to prevent them from reorganizing, for they fell back upon the ancient capitol, the town of Delhi, where they were joined by three other regiments of native troops and a battery of native artillery, and at once commenced to massacre the European residents, man, woman, and child. A few, however, succeeded in effecting their escape by riding for their lives. As soon

as the rebels had established themselves masters of the town, they at once enthroned the son of the late mogul, emperor, whom they proclaimed king and ruler over India. The public newspapers give the minutes connected with this horrible affair, to which we refer our readers for particulars for the same, and make a few observations on the cause and probable results of the mutiny in our Indian army. It is curious to hear how some of the daily papers depreciate the conduct of the natives for endeavouring to drive out of their country individuals who have plundered them of their land and liberty, while the same journals ignore Filibustering and declare that General Walker ought to be exterminated. At the same time they hold up the atrocious acts of Filibustering of our own government as deeds of honour, glory, and renown; send their army and navy to distant lands, where they bombard and destroy towns and cities, and massacre the helpless inhabitants without provocation; and yet these journals who pretend to shudder and to feign abhorrence at the conduct of the Indians and Chinese, who are only acting in self-defence, do not hesitate to advise this government to take decisive steps to put down the so-called rebellion, and to dispatch a large force to India at once for this purpose, and coerce the native Indians into subjection at the point of the bayonet and the cannon's mouth; and yet, in the face of this advice to the government, they endeavour to persuade the English people that no danger may be apprehended for the safety of our Indian possessions; when only a few days since the same papers acknowledged that Russian intrigue and Russian gold had produced the disaffection amongst the native troops. And now this has manifested itself, they inform the people that all the troops in the Bombay and Madras presidencies are still faithful, and abhor the conduct of their revolting comrades, and that numerous of the native princes have consented to place their forces at the disposal of the British government. This may do for those who are unacquainted with the people of India, but we can assert, from good authority, that the Indians throughout all the eastern empire, have long groaned beneath the tyranny of the British yoke, and the only circumstances which keep them loyal are, that they have hitherto believed that England is the most powerful nation in the world, that it would be impossible under such circumstances to free themselves from British rule, but they have now learnt that there are nations in

Europe as powerful as England, whose influence they have already experienced, and unless some measures are taken, our Indian possessions, obtained by two hundred years' enterprise, thousands of battles, and millions of lives, and hundreds of millions of treasure will pass from our grasp and who may the people look to as the cause of so great a sacrifice?

MISCELLANEOUS.

Troubles of the Mormon Prophet.—From private letters received from the Salt Lake, it appears that the schism in the Mormon church has assumed a formidable character. The Gladdenites, or apostates from the Simon Pure faith, as enunciated by Brigham Young and his adherents, have of late wonderfully increased their numbers, and grown so rebellious that the prophet is obliged to environ himself with a trusty guard of the Faithful. The letters state that his house is guarded day and night by his friends, and that, so bitter are his enemies against him, that he is afraid to show himself in public. He has deserted the tabernacle.—*London News*, June 20, 1857.

The British Spiritual Telegraph.—We have seen the first number of the New issue, and are happy to announce to our readers, that so far as we can perceive, it is likely to be a journal of useful instruction, information, and knowledge upon the subject to which it is devoted. The first number contains several interesting and well-written articles on the experience of spiritual manifestations, and we recommend its pages to the perusal of all persons who are desirous of obtaining truth.

A New Use for Whisky.—The *Glasgow Mail* records some experiments by a retired trader of that city, who is devoting his declining years to agricultural pursuits. He has taken a model farm in the neighbourhood of Govan, and after trying the various qualities of a large number of manures, the idea occurred to him that what was "good" to stimulate animal life might have an equal effect on the vegetable kingdom. While cogitating on this novel scheme he resolved to administer to each plant a different kind of whisky. Day after day he may be seen wending his way down the Govan road with a flask filled with the real "mountain dew," and on arriving at his farm he carefully applies the contents to the roots of the several plants. One is named "Glenlivet," after the name of the manure applied, others "Ben Nevis," "Ardberg," "Campbeltown entire," "Adelphi," "plain malt," and so on; although some of his malicious neighbours insinuate that he only follows the example of the Irishman, who got from his master some whisky to remove certain grease spots from the window he was cleaning, swallowed the liquor, and then blew his breath on the glass, saying when questioned, "it was all the same." This, of course, is only spleen, which all men must apparently encounter who have the boldness to chalk out a new line of action for themselves.

The Princess Royal's New Abode.—The palace that Prince Frederick William and his bride are to reside in cannot by any contrivance be finished this year; and as the painting, &c., cannot be done before the winter, it will evidently have to be finished, if not commenced when spring returns next year. The idea has, therefore, been already given up of their taking possession of their future abode on their first arrival here. For the summer a convenient suite of apartments is now being arranged for them at the Prince of Prussia's seat at Potsdam, Babelsberg; and during the time that elapses between the entry into Berlin and the removal to that summer residence, the young couple will occupy a suit of apartments in the Royal Schloss.—Berlin correspondent of the *Times*.

Presentation of French War Medals to British Soldiers.—The area of the Liverpool Exchange, usually devoted to the peaceful pursuits of commerce, was the scene of an interesting military event on Tuesday, viz., the presentation of French war medals to British soldiers. The ceremony took place at noon before an immense concourse of people, the mayor and a party of ladies witnessing it from one of the windows of the Town-hall. The resident corps of pensioners, commanded by Colonel Rogers, and captain Faulkner and some members of the Liverpool drill club, formed a hollow square, in which stood the recipients of the medals Sergeant Brummel, of the 46th Regiment, who has lost an arm; and private Joseph Mitchell, of the 68th regiment, whom the fortunes of war have deprived of a leg. Both men were fine soldierly fellows, and were each decorated with the Crimean medal. The ceremony of presentation was conducted by Colonel Bell, Colonel Tulloc, who was expected to have done so, being unavoidably absent. Brummel and Mitchell having been placed in an open space, with their heads uncovered, Col. Bell addressed them in a few spirited sentences, expressing the great pleasure he experienced in presenting them with medals sent over by the Emperor of the French as rewards for repeated acts of bravery performed by them. Col. Bell then affixed the medals to the men's breasts, and Brummel having called for cheers for the Queen and the French Emperor, which were heartily given, the proceedings terminated. The medal is elegant and ornamental in design, one side bearing the portrait of the Emperor, with the words "Louis Napoleon" round it. On the other were the words, "Valour and discipline." The medal hangs from the claws of an eagle, to the head of which is attached the ribbon.

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